SFACs. SFAC Society is a promotional body, and is a Financial Institution involved in the promotion and facilitation of projects as a Venture Capital Fund and it does not undertake the execution of any projects on its own. It has, however, assisted a number of projects in the North Eastern Region.

(b) and (c) During the Ninth Five Year Plan, so far, State level SFACs have been formed in the 11 States namely, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Tirpura, Sikkim, Meghalya, Manipur, Himachal Pradesh and Uttranchal. The State level SFACs in other 5 States *viz.* Assam, Nagaland, Bihar, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh are in the process of formation. The State Governments had been requested to promote counter part State level SFAC Societies outside the Governmental structure so that assistance from Central SFAC to the projects promoted in the States could be routed through them.

(d) A budgetary provision of Rs. 5.00 crore had been made for the SFAC during the year 2000-01, which was, however, brought down to Rs. 4.50 crore, which included Rs. 0.50 crore for the North Eastern States, at the Revised Estimates stage. For the year 2001-2002, a budgetary provision of Rs. 5.00 crore has been made for the SFAC. Out of this provision, Rs. 0.50 crore has been earmarked for the North Eastern States. Under the Scheme 'Setting up of Small Farmers' Agri-Business Consortium', grants-in-aid is not released to the SFAC State-wise. No budgetary provision has been made under the Scheme 'Setting up of Small Farmers' Agri-Business Consortium' as no financial assistance to SFACs has been envisaged during the Tenth Five Year Plan.

National pulse development project in Orissa

3534. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated to Orissa under Centrally sponsored National Pulses Development Project during each of the last three years;

(b) the achievement made in that State under the above programme during each of the last three years; and

(c) the details of coverage made under the programme in that State, so far?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) The amount allocated and released to Orissa State under the Centrally

Sponsored National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) during each of the last three years is given below:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Amount Allocation	Amount Released
1998-99	180.00	180.00
1999-2000	180.00	180.00
2000-2001	145.50	145.50

(c) Thirteen districts of Orissa State are covered under the National Pulses Development Project. The area coverage alongwith the production of pulses during the last three years in the State are as under:

Year	Area ('000'hect.)	Prodn. ('000'tonnes)
1997-98	786.2	286.6
1998-99	721.9	249.3
1999-2000	686.0	245.8

Integrated Processed Food Development Act

3535. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to enact an integrated Processed Food Development Act in the near future; if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) the details of the proposed legislation; and

(c) whether the proposed legislation would throw up vast employment opportunities in the food processing sector, if so, the details thereof, State-wise and industry-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH): (a) to (c) The Department of Food Processing Industries organized four Regional Seminars at Kolkata, Mumbai, Bangalore and Lucknow to elicit regional inputs towards formulation of National Food Processing Policy. In these Seminars there was a general consensus that apart from formulation of a National Policy on Food Processing, an appropriate development oriented legislation be